The Daily Telegraph.

No. 10,390.] LONDON, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1888. [ONE PENNY.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—Admission 10.0 to 10.0. LAST DAY of ANNUAL FRUIT EXHIBITION and GRAND NATIONAL DAHLIA SHOW. No extra charge. Show closes at 6.0. Conference of Fruit Growers at 2.0 p.m. Subjects: "Fruit Distribution," by Mr. Tallerman; "Fruit as Food," by Mr. Manning; "Land Tenure in relation to Fruit Cultivation," by Mr. Albert Bath.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—CONCERTS by renowned Crystal Palace Orchestra TO-DAY at 12.30 and 4.2 (conductor Mr. August Manns). Band of Grenadier Guards (by permission of Col. the Hon. W. S. D. Home), conductor, Lieut. Dan. Godfrey. [illegible] Organ Recitals.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—GARDEN BALLET and ILLUMINATIONS, THIS EVENING. Fairy Scenes from "The Midsummer Night's Dream," under direction of Madame Katti Lanner and Mr. Oscar Barrett. "A treat which is unrivalled in this or probably any other country."—St. Stephen's Review. At 8.0. In centre transept, if wet. Picture Gallery open all day. Panorama, Toboggan, Switchback Railway.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—Mr. HENRY NEVILLE in his original character of BOB BRIERLY in the TICKET-OF-LEAVE MAN, on TUESDAY NEXT, Sept. 11, at 3.0. Miss Agnes Hewitt's Olympic Theatre Company. Cast also includes Mr. Charles Sugden, Miss Jennie Lee, and Miss Agnes Hewitt.—Seats 1s. to 5s.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—Mr. H. BEERBOHM TREE as SIR JOHN FALSTAFF.—Shakespeare's MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR, under the direction of Mr. Edward Hastings, THURSDAY NEXT, at three. Exceptionally powerful cast.—Seats 1s. to 5s.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—GREAT FIREWORK DISPLAY, by C. T. Brock and Co., THURSDAY NEXT, at eight. Full particulars in Monday's advertisements.

ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Erroneous Impression.—WILL NOT BE CLOSED.—Is the best show in London. Open Every Day.—PERFORMANCES commence EVERY AFTERNOON at three, and EVERY EVENING at eight.—Admission 1s., children 6d., including the unreserved seats. Ask for railway tickets to St. James's Park Station, including admission.

EXCURSIONISTS.—Notice.—VISITORS from the country will be ADMITTED to the ROYAL AQUARIUM at 6d. each on production of the return halves of their railway tickets.

ROYAL AQUARIUM.—Gounod.—Mr. KELSON TRUEMAN, the new English Tenor, will SING Gounod's "Nazareth," THIS (Saturday) AFTERNOON, at four; evening, at 7.45, accompanied on the grand organ by Mr. J. Mortimer Dickman.

ROYAL AQUARIUM.—FLYING SISTERS ONGAR, from the Folies Bergères, Paris, the greatest lady gymnasts on the Flying Trapeze ever seen in this country. Marvels of neatness. Unparalleled success.—EVERY AFTERNOON and EVENING.

ROYAL AQUARIUM.—PYLADES (15 minutes with Madame Tussaud's), Barnetto and Hall's Comic Bar Act, Miss Lillie Western (the American Musical Marvel), Sam Hasllem (the Black Philosopher), Wilson Brothers, Ryan and Barhold, &c.

ROYAL AQUARIUM.—The ROSSBACH TROUPE, Tableaux Vivants, the original Brown, Newland, and Wallace in "Black Justice," Prof. Cross (Phrenologist), and a host of others.

ROYAL AQUARIUM.—The world-renowned BECKWITHS. These amphibious wonders Willie and Charlie Beckwith and Professor Beckwith's Troupe of beautiful Lady Swimmers more successful than ever. Twice daily at [illegible]

PENINSULAR and ORIENTAL COMPANY, carrying H.M.'s mails to INDIA, CHINA, and AUSTRALIA.—P. and O. ACCELERATED THROUGH SERVICES, as under.

BOMBAY and KURRACHEE, by P. and O., from LONDON and BRINDISI EVERY WEEK. Dates of departure:

	Tons.	London.	Marseille.	Naples.	Brindisi.
Shannon	4,189	Sept. 14	—	—	Sept. 26
Britannia	6,257	Sept. 21	—	—	Oct. 1
Khedive	3,880	Sept. 27	—	—	Oct. 8
Rome	5,011	Oct. 4	Oct. 11	Oct. 13	—

CALCUTTA DIRECT, by P. and O., from LONDON EVERY FORTNIGHT. Dates of departure as follows:

		London.	Naples.
Pekin	3,929 tons	Sept. 17	Sept. 21
Brindisi	4,864 tons	Sept. 29	Oct. 5
Thames	4,114 tons	Oct. 11	Oct. 19
Clyde	4,136 tons	Oct. 25	Nov. 2

MADRAS DIRECT by sea, commencing with the steamer leaving LONDON, SEPT. 13, and fortnightly thereafter during the passenger season. The P. and O. steamers will resume calling at Madras to land passengers en route to Calcutta, embarking Continental passengers at Naples.

CEYLON DIRECT by P. and O., from London, Every Week; from Marseilles, Every Fortnight.

CHINA, STRAITS, and JAPAN, by P. and O., EVERY FORTNIGHT. Dates of departure as follows:

		London.	Marseilles.	Brindisi.
Ravenna	3,300 tons	Sept. 20	Sept. 27	—
Parramatta	4,771 tons	Oct. 4	—	Oct. 15
Victoria	6,268 tons	Oct. 19	—	Oct. 29
Massilia	4,918 tons	Nov. 1	—	Nov. 12

AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND, and TASMANIA. The P. and O. COMPANY'S STEAMERS, carrying HER MAJESTY'S MAILS, leave LONDON for SYDNEY, Melbourne, Adelaide, and Albany direct, calling at Brindisi, every fortnight. Dates of departure as follows:

			Tons.	H.P.
Sept. 21	Britannia	Capt. G. N. Hector	6,257	7,000
Oct. 4	Parramatta	Capt. R. G. Murray	4,771	4,500
Oct. 19	Victoria	Capt. G. F. Cates	6,268	7,000
Nov. 1	Massilia	Capt. S. D. Shallard	4,918	5,000
Nov. 16	Oceana	Capt. P. S. Tomlin	6,362	7,000
Nov. 29	Carthage	Capt. E. G. Stead	5,013	5,500

First saloon, £60 to £70; second saloon, £30 to £37; return tickets, £90 to £105. First and second saloon passengers only carried.

CHEAP RETURN TICKETS to the EAST.—The P. and O. COMPANY issue return tickets at reduced fares to India, China, Japan, Australia, Tasmania, New Zealand, Mediterranean Ports, and Egypt.

GIBRALTAR, Malta, Brindisi, Port Said, and Ismailia. P. and O. COMPANY despatch WEEKLY from LONDON one of their large and well-appointed steamers for the above ports, and for Marseilles from London fortnightly. Cheap single and return tickets.

ALEXANDRIA from LONDON, by sea, by P. and O., EVERY ALTERNATE THURSDAY, calling at Gibraltar, Malta, and Brindisi; and from Venice, every alternate Friday afternoon; from Brindisi, every alternate Monday morning.

PENINSULAR and ORIENTAL COMPANY'S OFFICES. For passage and freight apply at 122, Leadenhall-street, and 25, Cockspur-street. Freight brokers, Escombe Bros. and Co., Liverpool, Manchester, Glasgow, and London. Parcels 6d. per lb.

AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND, TASMANIA.—ORIENT LINE. FORTNIGHTLY SERVICE.—The following Steamships, belonging to the Orient and Pacific Companies, leave LONDON as under, PLYMOUTH one day later, NAPLES nine days later, for ALBANY, ADELAIDE, MELBOURNE, and SYDNEY direct, with her Majesty's mails [illegible]

MONEY MARKET.

[illegible]

SPECIAL MARKET REPORTS—FRIDAY.

[illegible]

PRODUCE MARKETS—FRIDAY.

[illegible]

SUNDAY SERVICES.

[illegible]

COLLISION ON THE CLYDE.—Lloyd's agent at [illegible]

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION.

SOCIALISM AND TIGHT-LACING.

Several of the sections yesterday were engaged upon topics so abstruse that their rooms were quickly abandoned by all except deep specialists in their respective sciences. In three or four, however, the subjects discussed were of wide general interest, and thither flocked the greater number of members and associates. One of these was the section of Economic Science and Statistics, where Socialism was allowed a fair field for its vindication. Professor H. Sidgwick started the subject with an analysis of the current conception of State socialism. This he contrasted with individualism, whose principle is that, the individual, being secured from interference, can take care of his own interest better than any Government is likely to do for him. He held that the motive of self-interest works powerfully and continually, and that the difficulty of finding any substitute for this motive, either as an impulsive or as a regulating force, is a valid ground for rejecting all large schemes for reconstructing social order on some entirely different basis. He drew a distinction between a mere increase in intensity and complexity of Governmental interference to prevent mutual mischief and a transgression of the individualistic principle. He thought a great deal of the increasing Government interference, so alarming to many minds, is not really distinguishable from the kinds of Government action which strict individualism has always regarded as indispensable, with the object of protecting individuals from mischief to person or estate by the action of other men.

Professor H. S. Foxwell then read a paper, maintaining that the expectation of Adam Smith and his contemporaries, that the reform they advocated would, by introducing an era of free competition, abolish monopoly, had not been fulfilled, but that monopoly now rests on a securer seat, being based on natural selection instead of privilege. All the most characteristic tendencies of the age, in his opinion, favoured the growth of monopoly. Monopolies thus arising were free from many of the defects of the old monopolies, and presented many advantages over the state of unmitigated competition, but they had their special dangers, and required appropriate forms of State control. The modern question was no longer one between *laissez faire* and regulation, but between regulation and collectivism.

After this digression the attention of the Section was recalled to Socialism by Mr. G. Bernard Shaw, of the Fabian Society, who read a paper which was listened to with deep interest and some amusement, because of its extremely caustic criticism of our present social condition and its tone of assurance that we are travelling inevitably on the road to social democracy, and that the sooner we reach it the better. He described the mediæval order of custom and rule, its disablement by the growth of commerce, the establishment of modern political economy, and the abandonment of industry to competition; then, having spoken of the discovery of the nature of economic rent, he said the achievement of Socialism involves the transfer of this from the classes which now appropriate it to the whole people, because, being unearned wealth, this is the only equitable method of disposing of it. In order to bring about the Socialist ideal, a more democratic State will first be established, with manhood suffrage, the abolition of all property disqualifications, the abolition of the House of Lords, public payment of members and election expenses, and annual Parliaments. The machinery of the State must be perfected for its work. But a democratic State cannot become a social democratic State unless it has in every centre of population a local governing body as thoroughly democratic in its constitution as the central Parliament. Then the proletarian man will be dealt with by the democratic State machinery. The necessary pressure is already forthcoming. The quick starvation of the unemployed, the slow starvation of the employed, the unbearable anxity or dangerous [illegible] of those who are employed to-day and unemployed to-morrow, the rise in urban rents, the screwing-down of wages by pauper immigration and home multiplication, and hand in hand the advance of education and discontent, are all working up to the explosion point. He put aside as irrelevancies such suggested remedies as the monetisation of silver, import duties, household enfranchisement, and extension of joint-stock capitalism masquerading as co-operation. The struggle between the unemployed who demand work and the local authorities appointed to deal with the poor is beginning. It will end in the municipalisation of rents and the extension of municipal enterprise to general industry, private property being extinguished. This programme, he declared, at no point involves the guillotine, a declaration of the Rights of Man swearing on the altar of the country, or anything else that is supposed to be un-English. He was careful, however, to unavow all admiration for this inevitable but sordid, slow, reluctant, cowardly path to justice, for between us and this promised land lies a wilderness in which many must perish from want and despair, and he said a few words in excuse for those Socialists who have favoured the speedier method of militant organisation of the working classes and insurrection—a proposal that proved impracticable, and has been abandoned. In the discussion which followed, the Socialist theories were roundly denounced. A German, Dr. Hennemann, declared his preference for English private effort over Bismarck's State projects for securing the welfare of the working classes.—Mr Macnight (Edinburgh) attributed the poverty-stricken condition of the lower classes to intemperance and excessive increase in the population. Mrs. Hassell Pamer stigmatised nationalisation of the land as wholesale robbery.—Miss Lydia Becker felt sure the women of England would never adopt these Socialistic doctrines.—Other speakers pointed out the practical difficulties in working out the Socialist theories.—The chairman, Mr. Hastings, M.P., especially denounced the notion of trusting municipalities with the custody of the wealth of the country and the employment of its labour, his experience as chairman of the Standing Orders Committee of the House of Commons having convinced him that our municipal corporations are the most wasteful set of men in the kingdom. But his strongest argument was that the adoption of Socialism in England would drive all the moveable capital out of it.

In the Biological Section the vexed question of stays and tight-lacing was discussed in a separate department. The attendance of the fair sex was especially large. The general expectation which they apparently entertained that the paper would condemn the wearing of stays was, however, agreeably disappointed.—Mr. C. S. Roy, Professor of Pathology at Cambridge, and Mr. J. G. Adams, University Administrator of Pathology, who had announced a joint paper "On the Physiological Bearing of Waist-belts and Stays," blessed instead of banning these articles. They have lately been making some physiological experiments, and had found that a good deal of the blood stored uselessly in the abdominal veins is, by slight pressure, placed advantageously at the disposal of the muscles, brain, and skin. This explains *how men*, as *well* as women, instinctively employ some method of abdominal compression, wearing waist bands or belts, or the more elaborate corsets, at periods of increased activity. No doubt fashion has sometimes led to the distortion of the female figure by means of stays, but if not laced too tight the modern corset, by clasping the waist and supporting the bosom and back, constitutes a convenient combination of the different forms of girdle which have been found useful by the women of all civilised nations from the remotest times. Of course during sleep they are put off, but during hours of exertion, social or otherwise, reasonable tight-lacing is fitted to increase mental and physical activity. They, however, cautioned young ladies against carrying this to an injudicious extreme. By the way, it was suggested to trainers of horses that if they girthed on the racing saddle behind the ribs instead of over them they would thereby gain for the horse the same advantage as was experienced by the long-distance runner from his broad tight leather belt.—Several physicians immediately attacked this paper.—Dr. Wilberforce Smith considered it a most dangerous one to be read to an assembly like that. He declared the evils of tight lacing to be manifold and terrible, and that it is perfectly refreshing to find a girl the muscles of whose back have not been withered by wearing stays. As a matter of beauty, not one woman in twenty who wears stays is presentable as a model.—Dr. Johnson Lavis expressed astonishment at hearing pathologists justifying the habit of wearing stays.—Miss Lydia Becker declared for the stays and tight lacing in a moderate degree as conducive to comfort as well as appearance. But another lady strongly denounced their use, and pointed to herself as proving the possibility of doing without them. Dr. Hoyle attributed many of the internal displacements from which women suffer to stays, remarking amid general laughter that many ladies do not feel properly dressed unless they are slightly uncomfortable.—Dr. Anderson sarcastically remarked upon the paper that its authors had given a rational explanation of the cause of many of the diseases in women which baffled physicians. The pressure of the stays upon the abdomen increases the work of the heart. That causes palpitation and shortness of breath. The blood being driven to the head accounts for giddiness, driven to the nose it produces its redness, driven to the uterine organs it accounts for congestions, driven to the legs it produces swelled ankles and varicose veins, driven out of the abdomen it accounts for indigestion.—This chorus of disapproval brought up Mr. J. G. Adams, who entered upon a further vindication of the conclusions of himself and his coadjutor.

In the Zoological Department of the Biological Section, Sir John Lubbock communicated some of his further observations of the instincts of bees and wasps, especially in a solitary state. He gave many instances of change of habits. He mentioned with especial regret [illegible]

[illegible]

AUCTION SUMMARY—THIS DAY.

[illegible]

LAW NOTICES—THIS DAY.

[illegible]

On Thursday the traffic receipts of the Suez Canal amounted to 200,000f., against 70,000f. on the [illegible]

THE TRADES UNION CONGRESS.

The Trades Union Congress was resumed at the Technical School, Bradford, yesterday, Mr. Shaftoe presiding.—Mr. M'Lean (Edinburgh) moved: "That provision be made whereby the Board of Trade, or other Government Department, shall have full power to prevent any contract for articles required by Governmental departments, or by any municipality where such articles are provided out of either Imperial or local taxes, being carried out by sub-contractors or sweaters."—Mr. Hunter (Glasgow) seconded the resolution, and stated that the uniforms provided for the Glasgow police were made under the sweating system.—Mr. Morrison (London) moved to add to the resolution, "That provision be made whereby the Board of Trade or other Government departments shall exercise the power possessed by them in enforcing the factory clause as applied to all contracts, and in all cases where the same is violated the full penalty shall be enforced, and the same conditions shall be applied to municipal or other contracts provided out of either Imperial or local taxes being carried out by sub-contractors."—Mr. M'Lean accepted this amendment.—Mr. Ham (London) said he knew a firm of cabinetmakers in London who announced themselves contractors to the Board of Trade, and it was a fact that this firm let out the whole of their work to sweaters.—The resolution was adopted.

On the motion of Mr. Harford (London), seconded by Mr. Tait (Manchester), it was agreed, "That this Congress condemns the long hours of duty of railway men, upon whom the safety of the trains depend, as being detrimental to the men so engaged, and a source of danger to the travelling public."

Mr. Swift (Manchester) moved: "That this Congress heartily approves of the bill, introduced by Sir Bernard Samuelson and others, having for its object to amend the law relating to the rating of machinery, believing that such a law is requisite, so as to clearly define the powers of overseers or local authorities, and prevent them taxing engines, boilers, or machinery, and that to the financial detriment of firms where a large capital is invested in rolling stock or fixed plant of the nature named in the same bill." The resolution was adopted, an amendment, declaring its scope outside the business of the Congress, being negatived.

Mr. M'Lean (Edinburgh) then moved the following resolution with reference to the Factory and Workshops Act, 1878: "That Sub-section 3 be so amended as to provide a minimum of 350 cubic feet of space per head of the workers employed in any apartment." "That Sub-section 68, limiting the power of inspectors to enter domestic workshops, be entirely deleted." "That Sub-section 75 be so amended as to include workshops upon the same conditions as factories; and, further, that any employer giving out work to be made or partly made elsewhere than on his own premises should keep a list of such places for the use of the inspectors; and, further, no person will be allowed to carry on any handicraft in any domestic workshop or dwelling-house unless such dwelling-house or domestic workshop has been duly licensed for the purpose." "That in all cases of advantage being taken of the overtime exceptions under the Act it shall be compulsory to enter the date and duration of such overtime upon a sheet kept for the purpose, such sheet to be affixed to the wall or door of the factory or workshop in such a position as to be seen by the workers interested, or by the inspector when he visits the premises." "That a clause shall be inserted into the Act making it illegal for parties working in any factory or workshop to evade the restriction as to hours by taking the work out of that or any other factory or workshop to be done elsewhere, or for the owner of any factory or workshop to cause or allow the work to be taken out of his factory or workshop for the purpose of such evasion." "That it be an instruction to the Parliamentary Committee to take steps to bring this matter before the Government with the view of getting these amendments incorporated into the Act." The motion was seconded by Mr. Chapman (London), and after a brief discussion carried.

Mr. M'Lean (Edinburgh) moved "That such an amendment upon the laws affecting immigration should be made as will prevent indigent persons or paupers being landed in this country unless they can show that they are skilled or capable in some form of earning their living by manual labour at the date of their arrival." He disclaimed any desire to prevent the immigration of skilled workmen, and declared that England was becoming a refuge for all the rubbish of Central Europe.—Mr. Keir Hardie seconded the resolution, which was, after some discussion, carried.

Mr. W. H. Lambton (Durham) moved a resolution declaring that owners of royalties ought to pay a more considerable portion of the rates and taxes now paid by the colliery proprietors.—Mr. Fenwick, M.P., stated that on coal alone something like £6,000,000 per annum was paid into the pockets of private individuals which did not contribute a fraction towards local taxation.—Several amendments were proposed with the object of extending the scope of the resolution, which was ultimately adopted in the following form: "That in the opinion of this Congress all mineral royalties and ground rents should be paid to the State for the purpose of relieving local and imperial taxation."

The Congress then proceeded to consider what town should be selected for next year's meeting. Cardiff, Dundee, Liverpool, and Birmingham were proposed. On a vote being taken the final ballot showed seventy-nine for Dundee, and seventy-four for Liverpool. Dundee was therefore chosen.

A resolution, regretting the hardships endured by the mat-weaving industry, from having to compete with prison-made goods, having been adopted, certain amendments of the standing orders were dealt with.—Resolutions in favour of the formation of joint boards for securing the settlement of disputes between employers and workmen, and the necessity of granting certificates for seagoing shipwrights, were carried; after which the following were elected, in the order given, as the Parliamentary Committee for the ensuing year: Messrs. Mawdsley, Crawford, M.P., Birtwistle, Slatter, Harford, Murchie, Jack, Inskip, Shipton, and Ingas. There were twenty-four nominations.

Mr. Threlfall (Southport) moved "That this Congress recognising the many hardships under which the workers in the coal industry and railway service labour, and the insuperable difficulties to prevent the complete organisation of such workers, hereby demands the passing of an eight hours' bill for these industries at an early date."

Mr. Keir Hardie moved as an amendment the resolution passed by Congress in 1883, the effect of which was to extend the demand for an eight hours' bill to all trades.

After a long and animated discussion the amendment was defeated by a large majority, and the resolution was also negatived by 46 votes to 23.

Congress then adjourned.

ALLEGED INCENDIARISM.

At Stratford Petty Sessions, yesterday, Charles Butler, fifty-one, of 31, Cottage-grove, Stockwell, and John Sharpe, fifty, of Bedford Hall, Clapham, each described as a club proprietor, were charged on remand with being concerned together in unlawfully and maliciously setting fire to the dwelling house, No. 5, Ferndale-villas, Drayton-road, Leytonstone, the private residence of Sharpe, on the night of the 31st ult.

Mr. Willis, jun., appeared for Sharpe.

The Leyton and Leytonstone Fire Brigade was called to a fire at No. 5, Ferndale-villas, at about one o'clock on Saturday morning. On an examination of the premises it was found that in the lower rooms all the furniture was piled in the centre of the room and the carpet tucked around, and the furniture was smeared with resin. In the back parlour, in a cupboard, there was a 2lb tin of granulated gunpowder, the canister being three parts full and with some powder sprinkled at its base, its top being open. When the men were arrested Sharpe remarked to Butler, "You have let me into a nice hole; you have drained every sovereign out of me, and have been my ruin." Butler made no reply to the charge, but Sharpe volunteered a lengthy statement, in the course of which he said he had been induced to sanction the destruction of his premises under the influence of Butler, in order to realise money to carry out further necessary alterations in their club.

Detective-sergeant Blanks was now called, and said that at a quarter to one o'clock on Saturday morning he went to the fire, and saw the furniture in the positions described, resin being spread about on the chairs, couch, and sideboard. At No. 1, Drayton-road, witness saw Sharpe, who at once remarked "Hallo, Boss." Witness said he had come to see about the fire, as it looked very suspicious, there being a quantity of resin about the place. Sharpe then asked Captain Miller to go out of the room to fetch his friend Martin, and when the latter came in prisoner asked that his partner (the prisoner Butler) might be sent for. When Butler came Sharpe said, referring to witness, "He thinks there's something wrong about this." Butler said, "Oh! do they?" Witness then said to Butler, "There is a quantity of resin about the place," and Butler remarked that he would like to see it. He went out with Captain Miller, and, while he was away, witness told Sharpe that he would be charged on suspicion of setting fire to the premises. Prisoner then said, "You don't mean that?" and witness replied that he did. Butler then came into the room, and said, "How do you feel now, Jack?" and Sharpe said, "I feel worse now; I am in charge." Butler then remarked to witness, "I suppose you know what you are about?" and witness replied that he perfectly knew. After some conversation, Sharpe, pointing to Butler, exclaimed, "That man has been my ruin, and has drawn every sovereign out of me."

Captain Miller, in reply to Mr. Willis, said that, after leaving the court on Monday last, he went to the house with Detective Blanks and searched for a lamp. He found the one produced at the foot of the stairs, broken. When he went to the house on the night of the fire there was no one in charge of it, and he had to force an entrance.

After further evidence, the prisoners were again remanded.

A Bankrupt Town.—A Dublin correspondent telegraphs: A Government auditor visited the town of Boyle yesterday (Thursday) to audit the accounts of the Town Commissioners, and found an extraordinary state of things. There is no money in the treasurer's hands, and the town is not lighted, being in utter darkness at night. Two rival town clerks appeared before the auditor, one having been dismissed, but refusing to accept his discharge. Both keep a different set of books, and these were produced. The auditor surcharged three commissioners £15, which they paid the new clerk for salary before his appointment had been declared legal. The dismissed clerk claimed £300 from the board. A rate-collector was several pounds short, and he appeared before the auditor to explain that the board had not paid him his poundage, and he purchased a suit of clothes with the missing money. He added that he would be unable to appear in public without the clothes. The audit having concluded, the dismissed town clerk packed up his set of books, and the solicitor to the board seized the assessment book, which he refuses to part with, and the new town clerk took possession of his set of books. The Irish Courts have decreed certain ratepayers, and the money not being forthcoming the next step will be the placing of an official receiver over the town.

Child Murder.—Sarah Higgins, or Boyd, wife of a labourer, at Dalry, Ayrshire, has been committed to prison charged with murdering her daughter's illegitimate infant. Dr. Archibald, to whom the prisoner applied for a certificate of death to obtain the money for which the child's life had been insured, refused the certificate till he had examined the child. His examination revealed the fact that the child had been stabbed through the heart and lungs with a sharp instrument.

Floriline.—For the Teeth and Breath.—Is the best liquid dentifrice in the world. It thoroughly cleanses partially decayed teeth from all parasites or living "animalculæ," leaving them pearly white, imparting a delightful fragrance to the breath. The Fragrant Floriline removes instantly all odours arising from a foul stomach or tobacco smoke. It is perfectly harmless, and delicious as sherry.—Of all Chemists, price 2s. 6d. per bottle.—[Advt.]

"Brain Salt" (registered) is the name which accurately describes the newest and most effective remedy for headaches and sea sickness. It is invaluable to travellers, and speedily relieves those suffering from the effects of over-brainwork. Its effect is to quickly refresh those suffering from nervous derangement, migraine, &c. Of chemists, 2s. 9d., or post free 3s., from the sole proprietors, F. Newbery and Sons, 1, King Edward-street, Newgate-street, London, E.C.—[Advertisement.]

SPORTING INTELLIGENCE.

SANDOWN PARK NOTES.

Sandown Park is one of the few meetings where the majority of the horses intended to fulfil engagements do not arrive until the morning of battle. Thus, the strength of the fields cannot easily be gauged until the eleventh hour, and often a card that looks weak turns out exactly the reverse. This happened in connection with the first day of the autumn fixture, and if in two instances only three runners mustered at the post, these shortcomings were more than wiped out. A baker's dozen answered to the roll-call for the Sandown Nursery, only one less for the Michaelmas Stakes, and sixteen for the Flying Two-Year-Old Stakes. Two of these events were taken by candidates from James Waugh's stable, Laureate securing the Nursery by a neck from Waterfall, and Lucy Long the Flying Two-Year-Old Plate by the same from Ketta. In the first-named affair Waterfall had escaped a penalty for her Huntingdon triumph of last Saturday, and yet she always stood at a slightly longer price than Laureate. The pair, who had previously met at Great Yarmouth, singled themselves out below the distance from Indian Prince and L'Abbesse de Jouarre, albeit these did not disgrace themselves. The Michaelmas Stakes enabled Alto to bring off a 10 to 1 chance and lower the colours of The Kelpie, upon whom odds of 7 to 4 were freely laid at the finish. This result might have been different, however, and it cannot be denied that George Barrett showed bad judgment in allowing Alto to steal away so far when his mount was full of go, the more especially as The Kelpie had a good pull in the weights. He did better in the Flying Two-Year-Old Plate, as, placing Lucy Long on level terms with Ketta a couple of hundred yards from home, she had a shade the best of the fighting to the end, and was bought in for 420 guineas. In a slowly-run race Reverie upset the odds entrusted to Sanctuary for the Welter Handicap, and, pulled out a second time, with a 7lb penalty, for the North Surrey Stakes, she led the field a merry distance until half way up the hill. From this point Polynesia, who had disappointed Mr. Redfern in the Lowther Plate at York, worked to the head of affairs, whereupon her eight followers pulled up and formed a long tail. In the course of the afternoon a few bets were noted down upon the Cesarewitch and Cambridgeshire. Still the trade was far from brisk, and the St. Leger situation can be summed up in the firmness of Ayrshire and Seabreeze, of whom the filly in particular seemed to have a shortening tendency.

To-morrow, at Sandown Park, the sport will be entirely under the Grand National Rules, and my selections for some of the events are as follows: Maiden Hurdle Race, M.F.H.; Hunters' Hurdle Race, Overton; Hurdle Handicap, Gonfalon or Coraline; Three-Year-Old Hunters' Hurdle Race, Poudre à Canon; Selling Hunters' Flat Race, Perseus or Fairfield; Hunters' Flat Race, Little Boy Blue.

Friday Night. HOTSPUR.

LONDON BETTING—FRIDAY.

[illegible]

YESTERDAY'S WINNERS AND STARTING PRICES.

[illegible]

SANDOWN PARK SEPTEMBER MEETING.

[illegible]

LATEST BETTING ON THE COURSE.

[illegible]

PROGRAMME FOR THIS DAY—SATURDAY.

[illegible]

CRICKET.

LORD LONDESBOROUGH'S ELEVEN v. AUSTRALIANS.

[illegible]

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE CLUB AND GROUND v. SURREY CLUB AND GROUND.

[illegible]

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE.

[illegible]

WRECKS AND CASUALTIES.

[illegible]

LAST NIGHT'S GAZETTE.

[illegible]

ENGLAND IN DANGER.

OUR MILITARY ORGANISATION.

Whilst military science has made rapid strides, and within the last twenty-five years new and terrible weapons and engines have been devised and perfected, very little has been done in England to re-organise our century-old systems of defence and attack. Far-reaching changes will have to be made in the disposition of our forces and material, in order to secure the advantage of those abroad matters. Some slight alterations, it is true, have been introduced in naval tactics, but the land forces have scarcely taken one step in advance of the times with the difficulties they will have to face in future wars with civilised foes.

Invisible forts, disappearing cannon, quick-firing and machine guns, and magazine rifles of great range and accuracy, are weapons, some of the new forces with which they will have to contend. Steel rail charged with melinite and other high explosives, which, fired from any field ordnance, is—at a distance of two and a half miles, can demolish and lay waste about a mile of earthworks, and mow down trees, are others. The power of rapid movement and concentration created by the constant development of the latest means of transport by water, road, and rail, has in no small degree altered the conditions which have neglected this vital factor, as was shown by the breakdown in Egypt and the Soudan.

What reasonable soldier or statesman can for manœuvring men in presence of an enemy in columns or other close formation? None, unless defeat is desired. Yet the whole system of drill goes blindly on, in our infantry, cavalry, and artillery, from the beginning to the end of the requirements. Foot soldiers are taught the look-step, to cling together, keeping constant touch in large or small bodies, to advance from rear to attack and defence formation, columns, and squares, and drill daily round and round, as if that ought to be acquiring the art of the expert marksman, trench digging, and skirmishing. Cavalry, too, are taught to charge in close order, to charge to squadrons with drawn swords. If the Russian cavalry at Inkermann could not withstand the Ninety-Third's "thin red line" and bonnet-bodkins, what chance would the finest horsemen in the world have in a charge of sabres when a skirmish line armed with magazine rifles?

There is nothing more certain than that neither our infantry nor our cavalry will in any future war have to carry out the manœuvres in which they are constantly exercised at home. Every officer who has taken part in recent campaigns knows this, and none better than Lord Wolseley himself. But things are not going to be done in the old rule, heedless of the rude awakening that is being prepared for them in front of war. Rule-of-thumb and exactitude and routine in close ranges are far more attention in the service than the slightest possible power to defend and attack to the best advantage. Speaking of the *United Service Gazette*, the late *Lord Wolseley and the soldier was taught unexpected movements of very little use in war.* "Soldiers are pretty to look at, but are dreary to manœuvre." And again: "Open order is essential to war. Close order is a mechanical evil, and a fatal one." *Sir Frederick Roberts and his Invalid Sowrett have both spoken in the same sense, whilst Colonel Maude asserted much of the English soldier's drill is wasted.*

The existing waste in one round of manœuvres, according to one of our highest authorities, seems to be based on a wrong principle altogether. Time—time—time, as well as from the days of Frederick and Marlborough. General Hamley says they made "the drill-ground a scene of rapid evolution," and "lose little relation to actual warfare." Hosts are wasted in keeping men up to the point of being able to "about face" in close order, and counter-march and form to right and left, and, and in manœuvring "by the left" to wheel and take a position by touch, instead of using their eyes. The Germans no doubt have carried that system of drill to a great extent, whereas the French have worked on an almost opposite direction. They have neglected manœuvres to some extent, but it will be found it was in spite of, rather than owing to, their old methods of drill, which they are hastily changing.

It is not alone that a new drill for infantry defence and attack is needed, but that the entire system of military requires to be altered from the ground. With the new artillery and firearms, cavalry can no longer be massed in large bodies, except or have except under circumstances of no account, if not so improbable, a return as the movement of whole divisions of cavalry in the very small beginning has been made at Aldershot by organising a number of mounted infantry. *Many more such regiments should be formed, for it is a downright waste of men and material to retain so many large bodies of cavalry armed with ineffectual shooting carbines and ornamental swords.*

The stupid practice of maintaining cavalry regiments without horses for more than half the number of mounted men ought to be done away with in Germany there is a reserve of horses; here we have the surplus in case, there long in theory, one cavalry regiment only 11,562 men and 15,000 troopers. Time is required for the proper training of a horse as well as of the regiment.

Until among the innovations that ought to be introduced in the German plan of meeting modern officers thoroughly learning their profession. It should be taken up as a business, and for more time should be spent on parade and in camp, not only to master its details, but to see that the men also master them. England payments for military services any country except those of the United States of America, and her officers should devote fully as much time to their duties as, say, the Civil Service of India does to work and play.

Let it not be said there is no work to do besides drill. Our barracks and camps are not constructed and kept up solely by military labour, that the men might have useful experience which could be turned to advantage in campaigning. Nobody knows the capitalised value of the barrack-building and repairing operations carried on in the country. The probity of British officers is unimpeachable, and if the maintenance and accounts duties of the army be left to them, the best of the nation would be elected.

Besides there are half a score of minor though important questions connected with the soldiers well-being that require immediate attention, such as the rate of pay, pensions, rank, and proper clothing.

Considering that the larger question we ought to take up and settle the future tactical unit. Germany lost nearly 7,000 of her best troops in a quarter of an hour at Gravelotte, because they were formed in solid masses against the French mitrailleuses. The German cavalry fought in new open order, a formation now become far more imperative owing to the adoption of magazine rifles as Continental armies. *A smaller unit than the battalion needs to be at once chosen for the new tactical formation is, we are told.*

We want "a simplification of the formations giving the least possible target, and the greatest of magnitude and order given for the day-time, and for night attacks." Direct answers to "the question of the modern fight." "A general principle for the guidance of officers." Direct answers to "the troops are launched into battle," so that there may be no wasting ammunition and "no thin fire of modern weapons." "A development of combinations in small groups," to give great rolling power. The training in the horse as well as to a distinct aim in all drill." As the British soldier can fight in thinner order than any other troops, there is the more reason why the greatest precautions should be taken of the new conditions of warfare rendered necessary by modern art and science.

Lastly, much more must be quickly undertaken and put right in the military forces of the Empire can be regarded as a safe or satisfactory state. The unwillingness of horses as well as the army should be so organised that they could without serious difficulty and delay be mobilised with a reasonable amount of efficiency. Corps of cyclists and volunteer contingents should be encouraged. Above all, our defence must depend upon them be minimise the risk of enormous and the number of such hastings and keeps of Malta and Cyprus was lately considered by officers of our coast towns.

Modern artillery and forts could render numerous guns are needed on all sides at home and abroad. In only one or two of our forts have any steps been taken to follow the accepted method of making them as invisible as possible by painting and trimming, so that they harmonise rather than contrast with the surrounding landscape. Disappearing guns also require to be put into positions for defending our seaports, and men should be trained to manage them, even when not engaging with the weapons, whether cannon or small arms, which it is intended they should use in war.

PARIS FASHIONS.

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT.]

Fashion is always more or less influenced by circumstances. It is therefore not surprising to find it reflecting the peculiar condition of the atmosphere and, while keeping to the styles which are worn to be regarded as most accordant with the season of the year, it has a tendency to manner of these arrangement, the same taste of colour which prevails in the dress of the day. Just now we come across dainty female figures on the promenades which, at a distance, you might suppose were reproductions of the autumn tints of the leaf on the trees. The costume of the fresh, freshest of summer is to be seen in front of not thick in texture; round the neck is another of a less mode of cotton bodice, which is also less hat—drawn and gathered in a multiplicity of little pleats—broke for all the world like the fan of a peacock in full or beaver. The roses nestling in the straw of the garment are of the same hue as velvet that reproduces with extraordinary fidelity the texture of the leaf. Even the veins of the leaf are narrated, and the bunch contains, besides perfectly formed blossom and plenty of foliage, a few buds which are not to be opened by the first shower or gust of wind has blown the last lingering petals away.

FRUIT-GROWERS IN CONGRESS.

Yesterday, at the Crystal Palace, in connection with the annual exhibition of fruit and dahlias, a conference was held under the auspices of the National Fruit Growers' Union, the proceedings of which were opened by the president, Mr. Cranfield. "Fruit Culture at a Profit," the question of fruit and vegetables, and the best method of cultivating them, was then discussed. Mr. Cranfield said that the fruit-growing industry was one of the most remunerative in the country. Many persons were entering the field who had not known as to the best means of cultivation, and it was to assist them that the Union had been established. Mr. Cranfield then read a paper on "Fruit Culture at a Profit," in which he said that the cost of fruit was not so great as many persons imagined

LARGEST CIRCULATION IN THE WORLD.

THE SALE OF
THE DAILY TELEGRAPH
AMOUNTS TO AN AVERAGE WHICH, IF TESTED, WILL SHOW AN
EXCESS OF HALF A MILLION
COPIES WEEKLY
OVER ANY OTHER MORNING PAPER.

LONDON, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 8.

His Royal Highness the Commander-in-Chief and Lord Wolseley yesterday inspected the fortifications erected at Sheerness for the defence of the entrances to the Thames and Medway.

Canon Jayne, vicar of Leeds, has been nominated to the See of Chester, vacant by the translation of Bishop Stubbs to Oxford.

According to the Board of Trade returns, the value of the exports of British and Irish produce during the month of August exceeded by £1,389,460 those of the corresponding period of last year, the increase for the first eight months of the year being £11,362,298. The imports for the month show an augmentation of £307,120, and for the eight months of £13,026,743.

Two resolutions having reference to the sweating system were adopted by the Trades Union Congress at Bradford, yesterday. One recommended that the Board of Trade should be empowered to prevent contracts for articles which had to be paid for out of Imperial or local taxes being entered into with sub-contractors or sweaters; and the second urged legislation which would prohibit the immigration of foreign paupers who cannot show that they are skilled workmen, or are capable of earning their living by manual labour. Dundee was chosen as the place of next year's meeting.

Yesterday the Economic Section of the British Association was principally occupied with the questions of Socialism and the nationalisation of the land. In the Biological Section there was a lively discussion on the subject of stays and tight-lacing. A joint paper by the Professor of Pathology at Cambridge and the University Administrator of Pathology was read, in which the opinion was advanced that the slight pressure involved in the wearing of stays had a beneficial effect, and that reasonable tight-lacing increased the mental and physical activity. Several medical gentlemen attacked these views, which were upheld by Miss Lydia Becker, who said a moderate degree of tight-lacing conduced to a woman's comfort and improved her appearance.

A conference of fruit-growers from all parts of the kingdom was held at the Crystal Palace yesterday, under the presidency of Mr. T. F. Rivers. Papers were read and addresses delivered on various branches of the subject, and the discussion was adjourned till to-day.

On the application of Miss Edith Woodworth, the proprietress of the Globe Theatre, Mr. Justice Denman, sitting in the Chancery Division yesterday, granted an interim injunction restraining Mr. Charles Sugden, the actor, from performing at any other theatre in contravention of an agreement.

For using abusive language to a lady at the entrance to King's-cross station a cab-driver named William Harris was fined 40s, with the alternative of fourteen days' imprisonment, at the Clerkenwell Police-court yesterday.

Considerable activity was reported yesterday on the Stock Exchange. Home railways were firm, and Canadian very strong, while American lines relapsed. Foreign Government bonds were rather dull, on lower Bourse prices. Diamond mines were largely bought at an important rise. Copper shares were steady. Consols closed without change. At the Bank £218,000 in gold was withdrawn, on balance.

We publish this morning the concluding paper of the series which has been recently appearing in our columns under the heading of "England in Danger." That title was adopted deliberately and with commanding reasons, when, during the sitting of Parliament, we first called public attention to the state of our National Defences. It was never intended to create a panic, to embarrass her Majesty's Ministry, or to give occasion for rash and extravagant expenditure, but to describe, in a phrase which we were only too well assured would be justified, the existing condition of our armaments by sea and land, and the present risks to which the Empire stands exposed. There followed upon our declarations, as everybody must remember, an animated discussion in the House of Lords, in which the naval and military authorities concerned were severely taken to task, but only with the result that our statements became confirmed, emphasised, and augmented. There also followed the appointment of a "Committee of the Cabinet," in addition to that House of Commons Committee which had already been set to work. Furthermore, in no indirect connection with the cry of warning which we had raised, the entire available British Fleets—that is to say, all the Queen's fighting ships in home waters, or within hail of recall—were ordered out for a serious experiment in offensive and defensive warfare. We faithfully reported the incidents and fortunes of the Naval Manœuvres, and in an elaborate paper, published on August 24, carefully expounded the lessons taught by these manœuvres. Everybody competent to form an opinion knows—and, best of all, the chief officers of the Fleet and the Admiralty—how absolutely the test of that valuable experiment in mimic warfare supported our apprehensions and exposed the certain fact that Great Britain lies at this hour at the mercy of more than one possible combination of hostile fleets, if not in truth open to prodigious perils from the French Navy alone. The force, fairly enough representing that Navy, namely, the Achill Fleet, could not be and was not held blockaded by Admiral BAIRD, whose ships, slightly superior in numbers, bore also a just ratio to our own somewhat larger naval strength. The enemy escaped and ravaged our coasts and seaports almost at pleasure, capturing and putting to ransom many important towns, and obliging the defending flotillas to concentrate near the mouth of the Thames, in order, at least, to save London. Those are poorly provided with capacities to judge who will put by the Naval Manœuvres of this summer as "child's play," or flatter themselves that real warfare would show a better issue for the Kingdom. We can count upon no such luck; facts are facts, and the course and outcome of these evolutions—hampered as they were, no doubt, by "make-believe"—have demonstrated to qualified observers all that we originally stated, and more. They have shown that we can muster only four really efficient first-class ironclads, only ten thoroughly satisfactory cruisers, and only a third of the first-class torpedo boats required. They have proved that we had great straits in providing officers, men, and stokers on a sudden call; that gear, armaments, equipment, and methods of victualling and coaling were sadly behind the necessities of the time. We found ourselves obliged to sum up the moral of the manœuvres in these strong and despondent words. "To-day our Navy is, as regards the greater part of it, only a pasteboard fleet, incapable of steaming thirteen knots, with guns of very indifferent power and range, and deficient in just that class of swift armoured cruisers and those torpedo craft on whose speed and vigilance would depend the safety of our commerce and ports in time of war."

This paper on the "Lessons of the Naval Evolutions" was succeeded by one on "The National Armament," wherein we showed our weakness in armour, in speed at sea, and in marine ordnance; how in many respects Italy and France—and Russia herself in the matter of torpedo craft—were ahead of Great Britain. From thence the survey passed to the Army and Auxiliary Forces, establishing the painful but undoubted facts that we have not to-day so much as one Army Corps thoroughly organised and ready for instant service, since we do not possess suitable field or machine guns; that we lag behind the military world in the matter of new-fashioned magazine rifles, and have not even as many as two hundred thousand stand of the obsolete Martini-Henry with which to arm our Reserves, Militia, and ex-Volunteers. The article pointed out the immense activity of other Powers in developing and utilising all the recent formidable inventions, including smokeless powder, melinite, breechloading cannon, and efficient shot and shell—an activity sadly contrasting with our delays and indecisions. It computed the years which must elapse before modern scientific weapons could be supplied to our brave soldiers and sailors under the existing system of shilly-shally, and indicated the plain and simple way in which, "by the adoption of business-like methods, within two years the national armament could be placed in such a condition that all peril would be removed, and threats of war and invasion provoke no fears for the safety of the Empire." Again, on September 1 our columns presented a clear and careful exposure of the condition of things as regards "Magazine Rifles and Cartridges," in which it was shown to demonstration how terribly the British soldier is handicapped amid modern infantry by the helpless torpidity of Woolwich and Enfield, where MARTINI-HENRY rifles and BOXER cartridges are still being languidly turned out, albeit as obsolete as cross-bows and slings. This article was concluded by an urgent demand that the services of private associations and firms should be called into aid, and, in reference to such as think it a matter of expenditure too great to face, it was remarked: "One million of magazine rifles procured in this way, all complete, with twenty million rounds of ammunition, would not cost over three million pounds sterling. If things are allowed to jog on in the old style we shall spend five times that sum and still be short of the number. The Enfield practice is to employ as many men as viewers as it takes to make the rifle, and to spend a month in examining the work that is finished in a few hours." Yet again, the subject of "Our Cannon and Explosives" was reviewed with the equally unwelcome deduction, that, "compared more especially with France and Germany, our guns to-day are terribly behind in number and efficiency. At no period within the last twenty years has England been so outstripped in the heavier as well as in the lighter classes of modern cannon and quick-firing arms." Here again it was shown that the expense of bringing England to a level with the belligerent science of Foreign Powers need form no very serious charge. Finally this morning the last of these uncomfortable but unimpeachable statements dwells upon "Our military organisation." Here it is made plain that we go on feebly and foolishly drilling our infantry and cavalry in a fashion which the modern conditions of war have utterly and for ever rendered futile and fatal. We weary alike our instructors and our recruits with evolutions pronounced by Lord WOLSELEY "complicated, but of little use in war; very pretty in Hyde Park, but only amusing to nursemaids"; and by General HAMLEY as "bearing little relation to actual warfare." We have cavalry regiments without horses, riflemen without rifles, artillerymen without field-pieces, and forts without armament or ammunition. In India almost the whole series of batteries needs renewal; at home machine-guns, transport apparatus, remodelled cavalry, rifles, cartridges are lacking.

Such is the comprehensive view—serious and profoundly disquieting—which truth has forced us to put before the public, as to the existing condition of that Army and Navy upon the prowess and perfection of which—under Providence—the safety of this huge and opulent British Empire may at any crisis have to depend. We will not pause to remark how surely our first notes of alarm have been justified by irrefragable facts and figures beyond question. It is no satisfaction to us to be proved so mournfully well-warranted in our admonitions—far better would it have pleased us to find the nation safe, and our original conclusions too desponding. But the case is the other way. We are three years of hard work in almost every branch of defence to leeward of Imperial security; and we must get to windward again, whatever it costs in pounds sterling and in change of administrative system. It may be true, as the Duke of RUTLAND said at Sheffield on Thursday, that "if Russia or France were to put their Navy to a similar test they would find that shortcomings and failures were not the monopoly of the British fleet." And we know it is true that in actual conflict the exhaustless gallantry and devotion of our men and officers would do wonders to "pull us through," in spite of official shortcomings, and long-continued blunders and delays. Doubtless, but with the Empire of Great Britain at possible stake, we must not count upon the failures of the foreigner, nor upon miracles from our slender regiments and overburdened squadrons. The necessary standard in fighting-ships, cruisers, and coast defences—the indispensable equipments, munitions, and military and naval means—ought to be fixed, with due reference to the multiform exigencies of our interests abroad and at home, and then a swift, solid, and concentrated effort should be made, regardless of expense, to render the nation safe. We say deliberately, "regardless of expense," because, so long as no national money is actually wasted or embezzled in the task, it is really insane to boggle over five millions more or less, when the existence of England stands at stake. We wait now, accordingly, for the country to act, having done our duty; and the country, no doubt, is waiting for the decision of the Ministers. May it only please Heaven that no sudden call to arms in the form of a great European war fall upon us while we experiment, patch up, perpend, and hold committees!

A "PUBLIC examination" is a name of terror to many undergraduates, but there are few, we imagine, for whom at this moment it is fraught with more disturbing associations than to Mr. ROBERT WINDSOR RICKARDS, of New College, Oxford. The public examination to which Mr. RICKARDS has just had to submit himself was not, it is true, of very long duration, but it may certainly be described as stiff. It lasted only one day, and, indeed, in all probability, only for an hour of that day, the candidate's "viva-voce" being taken concurrently with his papers. When, however, we state that the "schools" in which this examination was held are otherwise described as the Oxford District Court of Bankruptcy, and that the Examiner was the functionary known as an Official Receiver, it will surprise no one to learn that the contest between interrogator and respondent was more than usually unequal. As to the papers which it was the examiner's duty to inspect and criticise, they, it must be confessed, were of a singularly unsatisfactory character. A departed but not forgotten master of the lighter lyre has celebrated the social fascinations of a certain youth in the memorable quatrain, "The damsel's delight and the chaperone's fear, He is voted a trump among men; His father allows him two hundred a year, And he'll lay you a thousand to ten." We will not go so far as to say that Mr. RICKARDS succeeded in completely realising the poet's ideal, for poets' ideals are proverbially difficult to realise; but an inspection of his accounts, and in particular a comparison of his income and expenditure, justify us in saying that he has made a gallant attempt to reach the above poetic standard of imprudence. The bankrupt's liabilities were estimated to amount to fourteen hundred and thirty-nine pounds eleven shillings and ninepence, and his assets to the more modest sum of fifty pounds. In reply to the Official Receiver, Mr. RICKARDS said that his father allowed him not two hundred, but two hundred and fifty pounds a year, which was subsequently increased to between three and four hundred, while his expenditure had been at the rate of between six hundred and seven hundred per annum. He had borrowed of money-lenders nine hundred and thirty pounds, and he did not, he said—and the fact speaks volumes for the obliging disposition of the class—"have much difficulty in procuring the money." In fact, he informed the Court, he borrowed the cash on the strength of letters from persons offering to lend it. At the same time, we are sorry to say, he did not disdain the employment of diplomatic artifice to obtain loans. Thus, he had stated that he was entitled to one thousand pounds a year when he was twenty-five, "but that was not true." It was also inexact to have said, as he confessed to having done, that he had no bills outstanding; and in declaring that "his aunt had left him two thousand pounds" he had displayed a similar proficiency in that art in which the youthful GEORGE WASHINGTON is said to have been so notably backward. How the funds thus procured had been expended was a question on which Mr. RICKARDS, with the best intentions, was unable to enlighten the Court. It was not true that he had lost heavily in betting or cards, for he never betted to a greater extent than a pound. A few dogs he had indeed bought at a little matter of a hundred or two hundred pounds a-piece; but it is not suggested that he ever purchased as many as ten of the cheaper or five of the more costly variety of the faithful animal; and, in short, Mr. RICKARDS's viva-voce ended for the day with a frank acknowledgment on his part that "he was puzzled to know what had become of his money."

It is no discredit, perhaps, to Mr. RICKARDS to have been unprepared with a "working solution" of a problem which in one form or other has perplexed mankind in all ages and of every degree, from Chancellors of the Exchequer downward. At the same time, however, it may be suggested that the enigma does not present itself in quite so mysterious a shape in Mr. RICKARDS' case as it does in some others. His general standard of expenditure may be judged of from particular instances, and a fancy for hundred pound or two hundred pound dogs is significant of much. A few unconsidered trifles of this kind run into money, and if, as is probably the case, he has been in the habit of gratifying his taste in wine, cigars, jewellery, perfumes, neckties, pictures, furniture, and perhaps horses, on the same scale, a pretty shrewd guess may be hazarded as to what has become of his money. It might, in fact, almost be said that, given a young man of the bankrupt's propensities and opportunities, there is less difficulty in accounting for his debts than his assets. The existence of that sum of fifty pounds, which the insolvent student produced as his proud composition of eightpence in the pound on the claims of his creditors, is perhaps, if rightly considered, a greater marvel than the untraceable outlay of many hundreds which has landed him in his present position. Life at the Universities, in spite of the changes for the better—or the more serious, if that be the better—which are supposed to have come over it of late years, retains, apparently, a good many of its ancient characteristics. In spite of increased virtue, there appears to be still a reasonable amount of the "cakes and ale" of luxury to be obtained there on application, or rather to be forced upon the callow undergraduate in the form of temptations to extravagance which are perhaps unequalled for multiplicity and intensity anywhere else in the world. Now, it would seem, as formerly—and no doubt with the growth of the tribe of advertising money-lenders now more than formerly—the inexperienced student at Oxford or Cambridge finds himself exposed to solicitations of a seductive power which it would need a much firmer will and a far greater amount of worldly wisdom than he is likely to possess to enable him always to resist. In most cases he has just become for the first time in his life his own master. He is comparatively ignorant of the value of money except as a medium for the purchase of every conceivable kind of useless article, and he is surrounded by a host of insidious and obsequious purveyors of such articles, whose supply of them is as unlimited as the credit which they profess themselves willing to extend to a purchaser. The exhilarating freedom of life, the youthful passion for amusement, and that dangerous if delightful kind of republicanism which mingles young men of every variety of position, means, and prospects in equal companionship, suffice to do the rest. For a year or two the undergraduate lives in a golden world of imagination, in which arithmetic has no place, and the allowance of two hundred pounds a year appears an inexhaustible purse of FORTUNATUS. Of course the day of reckoning, the bad quarter of an hour of RABELAIS, comes at last; and, though happily the academic FAUST and the usurious MEPHISTOPHELES do not always square accounts in the Inferno of the Bankruptcy Court, the process of liquidation is often a painful one for a character who does not appear in GOETHE's drama. FAUST in most cases has a father, and it is to him as a rule that MEPHISTOPHELES makes application for the penalty and forfeit of his bond.

We do not suppose that it would be of much avail to point again the timeworn moral of these tales of youthful folly and improvidence. Whatever the moralist may say about them, they will undoubtedly repeat themselves so long as youth is youth, and the system of the older English Universities continues to be what, in spite of superficial changes, it still evidently is. Recent extensions of that which may be called the area of academic affiliation have made it possible for young men of moderate means and economical habits to obtain the benefits of a University training while avoiding its temptations; and these facilities have to a certain—no doubt to a considerable—extent been utilised. We rejoice that this should be so; but it is idle to disguise the fact that, while much may be gained by those who pass through their University course on those terms, something also is lost. They have to forgo their part in the collegiate life of the place; and there is no denying that, to the vast majority of Englishmen who know it either by experience or repute, it is this collegiate life, with its peculiar charm of youthful intercourse, never to be renewed in later years, which makes Oxford and Cambridge what they are. Its effects upon the minds and manners of the young at their most impressionable age are not to be produced by any other system of academical training, however elaborate; and, on the whole, we cannot wonder that the British Paterfamilias is, as a rule, so ready to set its benefits against its risks. Nor ought these risks themselves, undeniable as they are, to be exaggerated. The pessimists who denounce the mischief wrought, as they declare, by the English Universities in fostering habits of luxury and improvidence would do well to institute a systematic inquiry into the subsequent history of the "ruined lives" of which they talk so glibly. Even those which they could plausibly represent as such are much fewer than they would have us believe. Exposure to the peculiar temptations that beset the undergraduate is not by any means synonymous with surrender to them. There are, and always have been, hundreds of young men upon whom the early attainment of freedom from tutelage produces a fortifying effect; and even the minority who fail to pass unscathed through the ordeal are in most cases the better and the wiser for their painful experience. It is not to be assumed that the undergraduate who is foolish enough to exceed his income and to involve himself in difficulties in early life is a lost man. On the contrary, for one instance in which he brings home with him a pernicious habit there are a dozen instances in which he carries away with him a valuable lesson. It would be as rash as it is uncharitable to conclude that even a youth who has suffered so singularly inglorious a defeat at the hands of his temptations as Mr. RICKARDS is an irreclaimable spendthrift. So far from this, we should not be at all surprised if, when he has more carefully measured the capacities of an income of three hundred pounds a year, he were to develop into a useful and provident citizen. And we may feel tolerably confident that, unless his circumstances greatly

improve, he will in future sternly deny himself the indulgence of an outlay of a hundred or two hundred pounds in the purchase of dogs.

From the point-sea of the Greek mythology down to the present days of Agamemnon and other one-master, hand-leaded "sons," man has been the acknowledged and willing slave of woman. In fact we, indeed, has the name to a good deal more generally, and conspicuously at the present time, than it had of yore, and strong as are the claims of our present tributes of direct servitude to latter-day OMPHALES and BERENICES, we are lavishly and unstintingly busy outside herculean, HERCULES and SAMSON. An important change, however, has of late superficially taken place in our irresistible subjugation with regard to the partition between the sexes of the broad-carrying avocations and practical purposes of life. Formerly women of intelligence and ability were content to take work for them, and, moreover, to take such work as brought them into direct contact with the rough realities that lassitude in the pathof every active worldly career. The natural and real use of the sharp sex was joint duties assigned to woman, and by her accepted, in the commercial use, as a matter of male utility was chiefly confined to the domestic circle, in which she played the role of "a ministering angel" for the most part unsatisfactorily. She sickened and ruled society by her beauty, grace, taste, and astuteness; she was the intimate friend of home as wife, sister, or gentlemen, amiability, sympathetic capacity, and unselfishness as principles of action, and directed as she was justly prized, and, if in exceptional cases she experienced a tiffed ambition to share the hard work of the world, she found it in a livelihood, for wealth, and for public distinction, in the careful rearing of her children and in the pulses, and even for the most part assiduously cultivated them. The view of life taken by good old-fashioned writers of years ago is admirably represented in the novels of JANE AUSTEN and URSULA BRADLEY, whose heroines, as a matter of strong character and striking intellectual ability—were one and all man-worshippers, each of them admitted to some one of the comparatively number of the sterner sex, irrespective of his imperfections of temper and irregularities of conduct, and eager to efface themselves, their lofty aspirations and brilliant talents, in the shadow of his magnificent individuality. Many "good time" when women unaffectedly regarded them as superior beings, if only in the matter of the personal power rather than their own wherewithal to fight and win the battle of life was the sexual ground-hope of the world radically and surprisingly as MOLIÈRE'S immortal sneers against the positions of those "femmes savantes" who in his time had become to have a fair footing on. Now always they claim their part in the contest, as well as its rewards. A young lady graduate" compete with their male fellow-students for double-firsts, wranglerships, and honours, "in the open field." Young ladies study medicine, surgery, and law, pass examinations triumphantly in all degrees, and, in short, enter the liberal professions no less creditably than remuneratively to themselves. They have not yet, so far divinely as I can see, climbed the pulpit as still man's stronghold, unrivaled by female daring, but how long it will be before they dare venture to compete. Meanwhile, our postal and telegraphic services teem with ladyclerks; and, lastly, a powerful movement is organised no more than to be the partners of our joys and sorrows, now betray a settled resolve to "push on the ranks" when a new opportunity they can establish their "inborn right" to do our work more quickly and effectively than men can possibly afford to do it ourselves.

As far as the medical profession is concerned, these are the considerations which both a thousand daughters, as well as sons, who can by one pursue. Not only, however, do ladies claim "entire bosses" many offings man's time-honoured monopoly of the hearing art; they qualify for the holding charge of women's cases, of lying-in, and of insane, and threaten the here-before unassailable fortress of the male sex with invasion. In Belgium, a few days hence, a question of burning interest to the fair, or rather, as it usually is, to the unfair, sex will be decided—to wit, whether or not women have a right to enter the profession of medicine, advocates in all its branches; that is to say, whether they may plead in open court, give advice in chambers, draw up deeds, conveyances, and wills, grant notarial certificates, act as conveyancers, and, moreover, be admitted to degrees for their professional ministrations in conformity with the enactments of the Code. Mademoiselle POMMIER, a Paris lady, has already taken the regular LL.D. diploma "utrumque jure" conferred upon her by a Belgian University, but remained that momentous, and prepared to present herself before the High Court of Appeal in Brussels for the purpose of being sworn in as a member of the Bar. It is stated that the Belgian Procureur-General will oppose this formality in his official capacity, which is not required to that exercised in England by her Majesty's Attorney-General, on the ground that the applicant's character has enunciated his intention to plead the cause of the "colleague," the bold "doctress." We are inclined to think that has already prepared an elaborate memorial, addressed to the Supreme Court, wherein he triumphantly demonstrates that no existing legislation, either ancient or modern, prohibits women from pleading as barristers. The whole of the arguments on either side in this remarkable case will beyond doubt be ably and learnedly stated, and will include the chief judicial authorities of Belgium, if given in favour of Mademoiselle POMMIER'S claim to practise at the Bar, and upon up a knowledge of the curious innovation in the future of the legal profession in Belgium, the law of nations, and even the French, are to this not logical, and, should the learned "doctress" establish her right to plead in Belgium, as is confidently asserted by her legal advocate, the time will surely come—in the Kingdom of the Lions Low, at least—when ladies-barristers will dot the brick-red and "instruct" lady-counsel, when their turn will cross-examine witnesses, especially of their own sex, and—why, why not?—when the hearts of jurymen perplexed jurywomen with emotional and persuasive eloquence, and, in short, when the Bench of Bar be a veritable lady-judge with the supreme special pleasing of the many up-to-date women who have as yet entranced in the quips and quiddities of the law, already excel. A good many Belgian advocates are not remarkable for either personal or legal eloquence than for personal beauty; and what if more, as we have said, a rival fair one should win the male prominent hope for with a susceptible jury, were he cupped to a lovely young ragitical "Portia," or, if not young, comely? Ah, there's the rub; beauty, in all of the ripe plenitude of matronly charms

Assuming that the Brussels Court of Appeal pronounce judgment in favour of Mademoiselle POMMIER, it is clear, we cannot but think, that the possibility, although we do so in fear and trembling, that British jurisprudence may some day follow the example set by the Bar of Belgium. In this country, as it is, the Chief of the State is a lady, and, it may be, a very good one, in spite of many of a great nation recognises a wise and accomplished woman as a fit and proper person to be at the head of affairs, and to assist in the administration of its laws, and in the defence of its private citizens interests, but there are many who would not object to see all the legal qualifications at present required of barristers and solicitors for the fair sex to fulfil. We may continue to hold women debarred, by the physical conditions, from entering the military and naval professions, and from engaging in surgery may be interpreted as implying, these functions the occupation of any profession, except that of a pure-paper, to the exclusion of which attention is not essential. Under a lady-judge, we apprehend that there will be a shrinkage to undertake the cure of souls in any Christian country, and, for the present, the Mohammedanism, Buddhism, or Islamism is the prevalent religion does not warrant the belief that, for some centuries to come at least, they will there be officially entrusted with the spiritual functions. The practice of the law, however, does not involve any physical exertion, points which women are unable to fulfil; nor does it include any duties, such as compulsory visits to observe silence in church, or otherwise restricting their activity in connection with matters ecclesiastical. There is only as declared of medicine and certificated surgeons, dispute the arena of curative science with the so-called heals of the creation, amongst whom, oddly enough, they find the vast majority of the male patients, sufferers if their own not manifesting, for the most part, an once-amiable distrust in their professional skill. We should they are to be equally successful, or even more so, as medical practitioners than men. We are of opinion that with average British juries, they would carry everything before them; for most jurymen are as much afraid of the fair sex as they are enamoured of it, and would not dare to find a verdict against a man who can withstand the wiles and blandishments of a pretty woman, as lavishly as she may cut-and-dry logic and cold, dispassionate arguments of uncomely man? It is to be only, as it cannot grow lab-tally, it has perforce equal that a profound conclusion of man grows upwards. Moreover, in this regard may prompt our legislators to resort any attempt to alter existing legal enactments in the direction of the admission of Belgian "doctoress." Let them bear in mind the precedent of other of the ancient British Isologian University some four centuries ago, and who, having permitted a learned lady of Bologna to lecture from the chair of mathematics, subsequently, to lecture on rhetoric to the students in hall, stipulated that she should never be heard discourses from behind a green curtain, so that her overpowering loveliness should not have a tendency to distract the attention of the male element of her youthful and con-sequently immaterial hearers.

WITH the visit to Paris now are watching with the greatest interest the progress of the Great Exhibition of the great Eiffel Tower the principal object of which would appear to be to raise the money for erection, and to be pulled down soon after. The more practical Americans are devising their means to the construction of a tower which will be the Tower of Babel on strictly scientific lines. Very high houses have long been a specialty in the American cities, although for years past the superiority in this respect must be awarded to the city of Chicago, which has devoted the greater part of its movements in the Old Town at Edinburgh of these abodes an anecdote to be recorded to the effect that the tenants of the upper flats were in the habit, unfortunate as to tumble out of the window; but, the whimsical part the tidily-dressed old lady, of sufficient presents of mind to remark to a gentleman standing at her casement, "Sir a fa' as I shall be in New York." What he said, if anything, is not on the Grass Market, history has omitted to leave it.

It is to be hoped that the fall of a lady from the summit of the phenomenally elevated building which is about to be erected in Manchester, and which is to be called the Jubilee Tower, is to be considerably less than fifty yards, and, which, most of the tenants will be out of bed, and have been shooting up structurally very much after the manner of ALADDIN'S Palace. The Manchester Tower is to be only eight hundred feet in height—an altitude, it is said, as yet unprecedented in the United States, but surpassed in New York city losing an apartment house fifteen storeys high in the vicinity of the Central Park.

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